



Commander  
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From: Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District  
To: Distribution

Subj: UNIFIED COMMAND POST MEMBER IDENTIFICATION

1. Over the past few years we have encountered a recurring issue during exercises and actual responses where National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) Unified/Incident Command System concepts were implemented. The functional identification of the myriad of people within the Unified Command Post has been identified as a problem that has hindered productivity.
2. Lesson Learned: The people working within the Unified Command were not able to identify people by function assigned within the command post. Once multi-government, industry, and other private sector individuals became employed within the Unified Command Post, it was extremely difficult for even Section Chiefs to distinguish or identify the multiple of players. It was also extremely difficult for the Resource Unit to track the various personnel assigned to the Unified Command Post. The result was confusion and inefficiencies within the command structure.
3. Proposed Solution. The District has procured colored vests to support the functional identification of Unified Command Post personnel. This style of vest also supports the addition of other identification tags to delineate an agency or organization. The intent is to maintain a supply of vests on staff that could be offered to the affected field unit during an exercise or real event. The Marine Response Branch/District Response Advisory Team (DRAT) will serve as the focal point to broker the vests for all CG surge operational contingencies occurring within the District area of responsibility. Upon request from an affected field unit, the vests would be deployed as part of the DRAT Resource Unit Response Package. Intended deployment of the vests would occur during all ICS oriented exercises and actual events on a first-come-first-serve basis with actual events always having priority.
4. The following supply of vests, by designation and color, are available. It is anticipated that this supply will grow as additional vests are procured during exercises and other events to properly support larger Unified Command staffs. Source and ordering information is provided within enclosure (1). Because of the expense of these vests, where possible, it is requested that any additional vest purchases be included in this inventory no matter where they may be located or stored.

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<b><u>Functional Staff</u></b>	<b><u>Qty</u></b>	<b><u>Color</u></b>
• Unified Command Staff (SO, LO, ICs,etc.)	10	(Royal Blue)
• Joint Information Center	10	(Navy)
• Operations Section	20	(Red)
• Planning Section	20	(Yellow)
• Logistics Section	15	(Green)
• Finance Section	15	(Brown)

5. Procedures. Upon receipt of a request for the vests, the DRAT will deliver the vests to the requesting unit by deploying them with requested DRAT members or by quickest means of shipment available. The vest inventory will be transferred to the requesting unit via a DD-1149. To protect the inventory, each vest is considered accountable property. Each vest will be signed out to individuals during the event as part of the Unified Command Post resource staging or check-in process. During demobilization or departure of the person from the incident, each vest will be retrieved during the check-out process. Any lost or unaccounted for vests shall be replaced with funding available to support the event before final demobilization actions are completed. To assist the Unified Command staff with proper check-in documentation, suitable check-in forms are provided within enclosure (2). Unified Command check-in personnel are encouraged to use these or similar forms.

P. T. KEANE  
By direction

Encl: (1) Unified/Incident Command Functional ID Vests Source Information  
(2) Coast Guard Personnel/Government Agency/Contractor Check-in List/Information  
Forms

Dist: All CGD SEVEN MSOs  
CGD SEVEN (osr)/(sr)